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## Controller Responds to Lawsuit Filed by Legislature

**SACRAMENTO** – State Controller John Chiang today responded to the lawsuit filed by the California Legislature challenging his authority to withhold lawmakers' pay until they pass a balanced budget:

"I welcome the review of Propositions 25 and 58, which voters enacted to ensure on-time and balanced budgets. The issue before us is not the role of my office, but how to enact the will of the voters.

"It is noteworthy to point out that the Legislature's budget proposal was not only vetoed by the Governor for not being a 'balanced solution,' but it was determined by the Treasurer to not be financeable, and would have, within months of its passage, led to the issuance of IOUs.

"While nothing in the Constitution gives me the authority to judge the honesty, legitimacy or viability of a budget, it does clearly restrict my authority to issue pay to Legislators when they fail to enact a balanced budget by the Constitutional deadline of June 15."

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